

# Everyday Lessons From Jesus: The Good Choice

11/19/2023 – LUKE 10:38-42

EMMANUEL CHINESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

# Three Lessons



- ▶ Life can get busy
- ▶ Misguided priorities can lead you down a rabbit hole
- ▶ Sometimes our “right” choice isn’t the good choice for us

# Luke 10:38-42 (ESV)



38 Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house.

39 And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching.

40 But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me."

41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things,

42 but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."



Life Can Get Busy

Finish this sentence ...

My life is busy with ... insert here

# There's Something About Martha ...

38 Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha **welcomed him into her house**.

39 And she **had a sister** called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching.

40 But Martha was distracted with much **servicing**. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me."

41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things,

42 but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

# Service Is A Good Thing

**Romans 12:6-8** - 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 **if it is serving, then serve**; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.


**1 Peter 4:9-10** - 9 Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. 10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to **serve** others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

# Jesus Is Cool With Being Served


**Luke 4:38-39** - 38 Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. 39 So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them.

**Luke 7:37-38** - 37 A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. 38 As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.





The “right” choice for her seemed like a  
good one, but was it?



Misguided Priorities Can  
Lead You Down A  
Rabbit Hole

# Something Is Happening With Martha ...

38 Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house.

39 And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching.

40 But Martha was **distracted** with much serving. And **she went up to him** and said, "**Lord, do you not care** that my sister has left **me** to **serve alone? Tell** her then to help me."

41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are **anxious** and **troubled** about many things,

42 but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

# Qualities Of The Rabbit Hole

40 But Martha was **distracted** with much serving. And **she went up to him** and said, “**Lord, do you not care** that my sister has left **me** to serve alone? **Tell her then to help me.**”

41 But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are **anxious** and **troubled** about many things,

- ▶ Strong negative feelings
  - ▶ e.g., anxious, troubled, abandonment, jealousy
- ▶ Strain on your relationship with God
  - ▶ Either questioning or testing God
  - ▶ Commanding God
- ▶ Self-centered focus
  - ▶ Where was the concern for her guest?
  - ▶ Help me vs help me to serve you



Sometimes Our “Right”  
Choice Isn’t The Good  
Choice For Us

# Martha, You're Missing Out ...



38 Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house.

39 And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching.

40 But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me."

41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things,

42 but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

# One Thing ...



Psalm 27:4 - 4 **One thing** I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

Luke 18:22 - 22 When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “You still lack **one thing**. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

Eccl 3:1 - There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

# Martha, Martha ... A Rebuke

## And A Redemption

Luke 22:31-32 - 31 “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. 32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”

Acts 9:3-4 - 3 As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?”

Matt 20:28 - 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many







# Conclusion

SOMETIMES WE GET IN OUR OWN WAY OF  
MAKING THE ONE GOOD CHOICE IN LIFE WHICH IS  
JUST BEING WITH GOD ...


IT IS UP TO YOU TO MAKE THE GOOD CHOICE.




When the music fades  
All is stripped away and I simply come  
Longing just to bring  
Something that's of worth that will bless Your heart  
I'll bring You more than a song  
For a song in itself is not what You have required  
You search much deeper within  
Through the ways things appear  
You're looking into my heart




I'm coming back to the heart of worship  
And it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus  
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it  
When it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus



King of endless worth  
No one could express, how much You deserve  
Though I'm weak and poor all I have is Yours  
Every single breath  
I'll bring You more than a song  
For a song in itself is not what You have required  
You search much deeper within  
Through the ways things appear  
You're looking into my heart




I'm coming back to the heart of worship  
And it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus  
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it  
When it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus



I'm coming back to the heart of worship  
And it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus  
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it  
When it's all about You  
It's all about You, Jesus





Christ above us Christ beside us  
Christ within us Ever guiding  
Christ behind us Christ before  
Christ our love our life our Lord